Continuation of FTV Channel

2957. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Consultative Committee of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting expressed its opinion for continuation of FTV Channel;

(b) whether there are other private channels showing obscenity and pornographic pictures/serials, etc.; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Ministry thereon?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) The Consultative Committee of MPs, attached to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, recommended to take up with the FTV channel operator, the need to adhere to the Programme Code prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and Rules made thereunder. Ministry of Information and Broadcasting had taken up the matter with the FTV channel operator and they had assured to adhere to the prescribed codes.

(b) Channels re-transmitted through cable have to adhere to the Programme and Advertising Code as prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and Rules framed thereunder. In case of any contravention of the code, the authorized officers under the Act are to take action.

(c) Does not arise.

Policy on film finance

2958. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that banks have now authorized to finance film makers to the tune of 50 per cent subject to certain terms and conditions stipulated in a policy laid down by Government; and

(b) if so, the details of the policy and will it be subject to approval of the Censor Board?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. RBI & IDBI have formulated guidelines for banks and financial institutions to finance the film